

**STILL UNCERTAIN** — *Just Listen To The Words of  
this Charity Recipient*



**COMBINED FUND DRIVE**

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**CHANGE THE WORLD. Over 25 Years of Making a Difference**



I'D LIKE TO THANK YOU  
AND TELL YOU I'M  
HONORED TO BE HERE  
TO SPEAK ABOUT  
MAKE-A-WISH  
WHERE I AM A VOLUNTEER

THERE ARE SO MANY  
ORGANIZATIONS THAT ALL DESERVE  
THE GLORY,  
BUT I'D LIKE TO SHARE  
WITH YOU  
MY OWN SPECIAL STORY

PEOPLE OFTEN ASK  
WHAT VOLUNTEER  
WORK MEANS TO ME,  
IN ORDER TO EXPLAIN  
I'LL GO BACK  
A FEW YEARS YOU SEE,

MY HUSBAND AND I  
HAD BEEN MARRIED  
SEVERAL YEARS,  
HAD OUR OWN HOME  
AND WERE DOING WELL  
IN OUR CAREERS



**WE HAD TWO  
BEAUTIFUL CHILDREN AND  
WERE EXPECTING OUR THIRD,  
AFTER A ROUTINE EYE EXAM  
IS WHEN WE GOT THE WORD**

**OUR WORLD CAME TO A STOP  
HOW DO I EXPLAIN THE STILLNESS?  
RICKY, OUR FOUR-YEAR-OLD  
WAS DIAGNOSED  
WITH A DEVASTATING ILLNESS**

**HOW COULD ALL OF THIS  
HAVE POSSIBLY BEEN SO?  
A BRAIN TUMOR MEANT  
HOSPITALS, DOCTORS, RADIATION AND  
CHEMO**

**BUT, OH, HOW OUR SON  
HANDLED IT WITH GRACE,  
HE AMAZINGLY ADJUSTED  
TO HIS LITTLE BALD HEAD  
AND A BIG ROUND FACE**

**OUR NEW SON ARRIVED  
IN THE MIDST OF IT ALL  
AND THAT'S ABOUT  
WHEN RICKY GOT A  
VERY SPECIAL CALL**

**HE'D BEEN GRANTED  
A WISH FROM  
MAKE-A-WISH FOUNDATION,  
BUT LIFE WAS SO CRAZY,  
WHAT DO THEY MEAN  
A VACATION?**

**A FULL WEEK AT DISNEY WORLD  
FOR OUR LITTLE BOY,  
BROUGHT MEMORIES OF A LIFETIME  
AND OUR HEARTS SUCH JOY**

**BUT HERE'S THE BEAUTY  
OF WHAT MAKE-A-WISH DID,  
IT ALLOWED US TO BE A FAMILY  
AND, RICKY,  
JUST BE A KID!**

**WITHIN MONTHS  
RICKY GREW WEAK,  
BUT HE WAS NEVER ALONE  
FOR WE WERE BY HIS SIDE  
WHEN GOD CALLED HIM HOME**

**MY SON HAD A PURPOSE  
TO HIS FOUR YEARS  
OF LIVING  
HE TAUGHT ME TRUE LOVE  
AND THE IMPORTANCE  
OF GIVING**







**SO THIS BRINGS ME BACK  
TO THE QUESTION  
AT THE START  
I DO MY MAKE-A-WISH WORK  
STRAIGHT FROM MY HEART**

**AND I'VE LEARNED  
IT'S NOT WHAT I DO  
FOR THESE KIDS, YOU SEE  
IT'S IN MEMORY OF RICKY  
AND ALL THESE KIDS  
DO FOR ME!**

**SO, IN CLOSING I'D LIKE  
TO ASK YOU A FAVOR TODAY  
GIVE TO A CHARITY THAT  
TOUCHES YOU IN SOME WAY**

**AND GIVE FROM YOUR HEART  
TO THE ONE THAT YOU CHOOSE  
BECAUSE YOU NEVER KNOW,  
SOMEDAY,  
YOU MAY BE IN MY SHOES.**

**Written by Terri Lujan**



...because kids can't  
fight cancer alone.

